

News from SALEM COUNTY

Office of Public Information

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LOW INTEREST EMERGENCY LOANS AVAILABLE FOR SALEM COUNTY FARMERS

(SALEM, NJ)—Freeholder Director Lee Ware, Chair of the Administration Committee, along with Deputy Director David Lindenmuth and Freeholder Beth Timberman, members of the Administration Committee, today announced that Salem County will assist local farmers to apply for low interest emergency loans through the Federal Government. A power point presentation describing the program has been set for Tuesday, October 21, 2008, 1:00 p.m., at the Ware Building Complex located on Cheney Road in Mannington.

"The availability of the low interest emergency loans is a direct result of the recent crop disaster designation for Salem County," said Director Ware. "The last major storm literally destroyed crops throughout the county; there is no way for the farmers to recoup their losses."

Robert Maxwell, Farm Loan Manager for the Farm Service Agency (FSA), will be giving a presentation on the application process for the loans. Mr. Maxwell will have two additional loan officers in attendance to assist the farmers in completing their applications. The Salem County Finance Department will also available for assistance.

"Farmers lost tomatoes, peppers, corn, and soy beans," said Deputy Director Lindenmuth. "We have to keep in mind that our farmers make most of their living during the summer to survive the winter."

Salem County has a very stable farming community that contributes to the quality of life for Salem County residents. The county covers 338 square miles and nearly half of the land is actively farmed.

"We will tirelessly continue to demonstrate to our constituents our firm resolve to keep our county the Garden Spot of the Garden State," said Freeholder Timberman.